Repair of National Highway No. 21 between Murree and Rohtang

296. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when the last repairs were undertaken by the BRO on 17 Kilometres stretch of National Highway No. 21 between Murree and Rohtang;

(b) whether Government are aware that the road stretch referred to above is in bad shape and heavily used by buses, other transport operators and tourist vehicles thus causing inconvenience to users and damage to vehicles; and

(c) if so, by when the road is likely to be resurfaced/repaired ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI] : (a) Murree-Rohtang Road is not a National Highway. The road is being developed and maintained by Border Roads Organisation. Its maintenance is a continuous process. Presently, works of repairs and re-surfacing of the existing block stopped surface of the streach are under progress.

(b) The stretch is located in snow bound area and experiences heavy snow fall. Continuous efforts are being made for repairing the damages to the roads within available resources, to minimize inconvenience to users.

(c) The re-surfacing and repair works are targeted to be completed by October, 2002.

List of items reserved for SSI

†297. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently removed some products from the list of items reserved for the SSI;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the reasons therefor;

(c) the rules framed by Government in this regard;

(d) whether Government are contemplating to remove some more products from the above list; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.